

An exhibition of MEDITERRANEAN, NEAR EASTERN AND INDIAN EMBROIDERIES will go on view April 1 in the Textile Gallery of The Cleveland Museum of Art, Gallery E. The embroideries are all part of the Islamic civilization which includes the countries of India, Persia, Turkestan, Caucasus, Turkey, the Greek Islands, Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco.

The Islamic Conquest, which began in the VII century, united these countries culturally as well as politically. Thus a similarity appears in the motifs, style and techniques of their embroideries.

Sixty pieces comprise the exhibition including seven costumes, fragments from tunics and other garments, curtains, pillow cases, towels, sashes and shawls. Every kind of embroidery technique is represented. The objects range in date from the XVIII to the XX century except for a small group of ancient embroideries from Egypt, Mesopotamia and Sicily, some dating as far back as the VI century.

In connection with the Embroidery exhibition, two small exhibits have been installed in the Educational Corridor. The first, PRINTED TEXTILES, illustrates the various methods of textile printing with examples of silk screen, block, and copper plate prints - tie and dye and stencil printed fabrics - and Javanese batiks, a wax resist process. One area of the gallery features some of the tools used in the various methods, such as wooden blocks, stencils and a silk screen process set.

The second exhibition in the Educational Corridor, DESIGN IN PRINTED TEXTILES, emphasizes design rather than method. The textiles are grouped according to subject - geometric, floral, animal and other designs. They stem from periods as various as early Egyptian and Indian, XVII and XVIII century French, Art Nouveau, with some fabrics from Liberties and some designed by William Morris.